

Outlook

THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND FACULTY AND STAFF WEEKLY NEWSPAPER
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Bold Vision • Bright
Future, page 2

University Ranks High for Baccalaureate Degrees Awarded to Minorities

The university ranks number seven among traditionally white institutions for baccalaureate degrees in all disciplines awarded to African American students, according to an analysis of U.S. Department of Education data.

The university also ranks high — number 22 — when traditionally white universities are compared with historically black colleges and universities.

The rankings, reported in the June 22 issue of *Black Issues in Higher Education*, were compiled from preliminary 1997-98 data supplied by colleges and universities. The findings underscore minority gains in postsecondary education and shine a light on Maryland's contributions to the trend.

"First, you have to give the students credit, because they are the ones earning the degrees," says Robert Hampton, dean for undergraduate studies and associate provost of academic affairs. "We are a leader in an area where we want to show leadership, that is, graduating people of color. All the diversity programs in the world won't matter if people aren't graduating."

The analysis of the education department statistics, published in *Black Issues in Education*, show that when all academic issues are combined, Maryland ranked number 20 in total number of baccalaureate degrees conferred to minorities. When all disciplines are combined, the university ranked seventh among traditionally white universities conferring baccalaureate degrees to African American students. The university ranked number 17 for the number of baccalaureate degrees awarded to Asian Americans in all disciplines combined.

In a look at individual academic disciplines, the university • shared top ranking for African American earning social sciences and history degrees;

- ranked fifth for African Americans earning degrees in biological and life sciences;
- was the top traditionally white university in conferring degrees to African Americans in English language, literature and letters.

The university also ranked high in the numbers of baccalaureate degrees conferred to Asian American students, ranking number 17 for all disciplines combined; fifth in computer and information science; number 11 for business management and administrative services; number 15 in social sciences and history; 16 in education; and 21 in English language, literature and letters and mathematics.

In other rankings, the university was in the top 50 for biological and life sciences degrees earned by Hispanics, business and physical sciences degrees earned by African

Americans, communications degrees earned by Asian Americans, psychology degrees earned by Asian Americans and African Americans and engineering degrees earned by all minorities combined.

The *Black Issues in Education* report says that over a 10-year period, the number of baccalaureate degrees awarded annually has increased by 80 percent for all minorities, 70 percent for African Americans and only 12 percent for nonminorities. Since 1988-89, African American students have earned nearly 1.5 million postsecondary degrees. Nearly 3.5 million students of color have received their college diplomas.

Maryland's rankings are "a compliment to all of us," Hampton says. "We should congratulate ourselves for our accomplishments, and at the same time, remind ourselves we can still do more."

Indeed, as the report points out, minority students make up



Vice President Al Gore brought his campaign message to the University of Maryland Thursday, August 24th, where thousands of enthusiastic supporters cheered him on.

Gore shared specifics of his plans to improve access to higher education through tax deductions for tuition and a tax-free "401J" plan that would allow individuals to save for job training and life long learning in the same way they save for retirement.

Gore was welcomed by a host of Maryland elected officials, including Gov. Parris Glendening, Sen. Paul Sarbanes, Rep. Albert Wynn and Benjamin Cardin, State Senate President Mike Miller, and Prince George's County Executive Wayne Curry.

Robert Waters is Mote's New Chief of Staff

President Dan Mote has named Robert Waters, Jr. to be his chief of staff, effective in September. Waters, currently assistant to the president for planning and diversity at the University of San Francisco (USF) in California, replaces Marie Smith Davidson, who retired a year ago after more than 30 years at the university.

Waters will represent the president in a wide variety of activities and will serve in the president's cabinet.

"I feel very fortunate to have recruited Bob Waters to this very important and demanding position," Mote says. "He is the right person for this job. His entire career and education have been preparing him for this position. We'll work very closely together. He will add 24 hours to my day."

Waters has been at USF since 1988, when he was appointed assistant vice president for student affairs. In 1991, he assumed his current position at USF, and in 1994 he also became the university ombudsman.

Waters served as executive assistant to the president of Spelman College from 1985 to 1987, and he was special assistant to the mayor of Philadelphia, where he grew up, from 1987 until he went to San Francisco in 1988.

"I am very excited to come to Maryland and have the chance to work closely with Dr. Mote," Waters says. "He has a great vision for the university. Maryland is a great institution already, and he wants to make it even greater. I want to be a part of that."



Robert Waters

Waters earned his bachelor's degree in economics and American studies from Eckerd College in St. Petersburg, Fla. He earned his master's in public policy from Harvard and his doctorate in administrative and policy analysis, with a higher education emphasis, from Stanford University.

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University Withdraws Application to Build Greenhouse

University officials announced last Thursday that they are withdrawing applications for permits to build greenhouses in a six-acre area the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers recently determined includes wetlands. The university will re-examine some of the alternate sites that had been considered for the greenhouse, the officials say.

"Throughout the process of seeking permits for this project, we have listened closely to the regulatory agencies and other expert opinions," says President Dan Mote. "We have heard a compelling case that convinces us we must come down on the side of protecting the environment."

The university had been seeking permits from the Corps of Engineers, the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) and the Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to use a six-acre site at the north end of campus for the new greenhouse facility. MDE and the Corps had scheduled a public hearing on the applications for Sept. 7. That hearing has been canceled.

The site was recently determined by the Corps to include wetlands. In its permit application, the university had stated its intention to construct new wetlands to replace those that would be lost.

Senior Vice President and Provost Gregory Geoffroy says the university still needs a new research greenhouse to replace the deteriorating facilities currently in use at Harrison Laboratory on Route 1 and will look again at alternate sites.

"The greenhouse project has very demanding site requirements with regard to size and orientation," Geoffroy says. "That considerably narrowed the number of choices. In addition, the university sought to control costs and ensure easy access to the site for students. The combination of factors led us to the conclusion that the chosen site at the north end of campus was the only feasible one."

"Our conversations with regulatory agencies have convinced us that the protection of this small area of wetlands outweighs some of our siting considerations," Geoffroy says. "We will therefore look again at the alternative sites and try to determine how to manage the increased costs that will be associated with some of them."

"We aim to complete this analysis by mid-September so that this vital project can continue," Geoffroy says. "The greenhouse is essential to our mission as the state's land grant institution and leading public research university."



New Student Welcome

On Tuesday, August 29 join the campus community in a celebration to welcome new students, followed by the annual Lunch Time Picnic.

The New Student Welcome takes place from 11 a.m. - 11:45 a.m. and the picnic starts at 11:45 a.m.. Both events take place on McKeldin Mall and faculty/staff seating will be available. The rain location is Cole Field House.

The event is sponsored by the Division of Student Affairs. For more information, call Andy Mrusko 314-8618.

University Exceeds Fundraising Goals

For the third straight year, the University of Maryland surged past its annual fundraising goal, garnering \$70.9 million in private support against a \$65 million goal for fiscal year 2000. It was a record breaking year all around:

- The university received 28,498 gifts, up 3.4 percent from the previous year.

- The number of alumni contributors rose 3.7 percent to 13,413.

- The University of Maryland Alumni Association membership grew 10 percent to 26,323.

The cumulative total for the *Bold Vision • Bright Future* campaign is \$321.1 million, with two years remaining in the seven-year effort. The \$350 million campaign goal should be reached sometime around the

turn of the calendar year.

The fundraising goal for this



academic year is to raise \$75 million in private gift support, as well as increase the numbers of total donors, alumni contributors and alumni association members.

The university owes its success to the generosity of alumni, parents, students, friends, corporations and organizations, as well as the talent and dedicated effort of many people. President Dan Mote, *Bold Vision • Bright Future* Campaign Co-Chairs Paul Mullan and Brenda Rever, and Ray LaPlaca, chairman of the Board of Visitors and of the new University of Maryland College Park Foundation, led a team of volunteers, senior administrators, faculty, staff and students.

Memorial Service Planned for George Snow

A memorial service for George Snow, professor emeritus of physics, will be held today, Aug. 29, at 10 a.m. in Memorial Chapel. A reception follows the service at noon in the Stamp Student Union Atrium.

Free parking will be available for memorial

service attendees at the bagged meters around Memorial Chapel.

Should you have any questions, e-mail Hannah Wong at naner@physics.umd.edu or call 405.5945.

Outlook's Fall 2000 Publication Schedule

- ☐ September 5
- ☐ September 12
- ☐ September 19
- ☐ September 26
- ☐ October 3
- ☐ October 10
- ☐ October 17
- ☐ October 24
- ☐ October 31
- ☐ November 7
- ☐ November 14
- ☒ November 21
- ☐ November 28
- ☐ December 5
- ☐ December 12



Outlook

Outlook is the weekly faculty-staff newspaper serving the University of Maryland campus community.

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Cracking the Housing Crunch at Maryland

This semester Akenji Ndumu will have to use his engineering ingenuity to manage new space in Hagerstown Hall. "Last year we tried bunking our beds, but I think this semester we're going to use cinder blocks so we'll have more space underneath," says Ndumu, a sophomore computer engineering honors student.

Space is a hot commodity across campus. Even with the fall opening of "University Courtyard," a 700-bed apartment complex on University Boulevard, and the construction of a 1,000-bed apartment complex to be completed by Fall 2002, housing remains a challenge.

"University Courtyard apartments will give us some relief, but it will not alleviate the housing crunch," says Pat Mielke, director of Resident Life.

Mielke cites a strong economy and the increasing size of the freshman class as the main reasons for housing challenges, noting the freshmen class size could possibly grow up to 4,500 students over the next few years. Nearly 3,500 new freshmen are expected this fall.

A housing crunch is not peculiar only to Maryland. As a member of the Association of College and University Housing, Mielke notes many universities face similar challenges.

The department of Resident Life reports nearly 8,350 students are living on-campus and the demand for on-campus housing keeps growing with a waiting list of 1,200 students.

"With the academic demands of this institution, students and parents understand on-campus housing is an important part of the living and learning experience and many want to be a part of the campus setting," says Jim Rychner, assistant director of Resident Life.

To help meet the demand, the university formed a public-private partnership with Ambling Management Company who will manage the "University Courtyard" apartment complex. Returning students of this new apartment community can look forward to a fully equipped fitness

center, game room and swimming pool.

Each fully furnished apartment is air conditioned with a microwave, dishwasher, full size washer, dryer and cable—a hook up that has never existed on campus before.

"When I was looking at universities in high school, my friends and I would joke about Maryland being the only one without cable, but now it's the perfect school," says Ndumu.

According to the department of Resident Life, the reputation as a "perfect school" has attracted brighter students who are more likely to choose on-campus housing to achieve a more traditional university experience. Nine of every 10 Maryland freshmen choose to live on campus, compared to seven of 10 just a few years ago.

"Living on campus is so convenient. It gives me more incentive to go to the library, makes it easier to meet with professors and my peers for study groups and projects," says Erin Madison, senior journalism major who lives in the Leonardtown apartment complex.

Resident Life has leased Terrapin Tower, the name given to a building at Quality Inn and Suites, to house 126 returning students for the next three years. Housing was guaranteed for all new first-time freshmen who submitted their enrollment confirmations and requests for housing by the May 1 deadline.

A new apartment complex tentatively known as "South Campus Commons" has been under construction since this summer under a public-private partnership with Capstone Construction company. Unlike University Courtyard apartments, Resident Life will manage the complex, located on south campus near Knox Road.

The 1,000-bed apartment complex will occupy two-and four-person apartments. The first 400 beds will be completed by fall 2001, and the remaining 600 to be completed by fall 2002.

ComputerSelect Web Navigating IT News and Reviews

You've probably had to decide between buying different sorts of hardware or software for a task. Or maybe you've wondered what a certain computer-related term really means.

It's not always easy to find reliable information on these topics, unless you subscribe to some of the many information technology trade and business journals.

Now, there's a Web-based way for the university community to access full-text articles and abstracts from nearly 200 top technology and computer-related publications. ComputerSelect Web, an online service produced by the Gale Group, is available free through the Office of Information Technology (OIT) library web site.

"This is a great service," says Kathy Campoli, OIT library manager. "ComputerSelect Web has a specific focus and offers materials not readily available elsewhere on campus." ComputerSelect Web provides access to thousands of product specifications, reviews and company profiles, as well as industry research and news.

OIT pays a subscription fee to the service provider, and anyone on the campus network or with university dial-up access can use the service. "We can only have six simultaneous users," says Campoli, "but we are interested to see how much more demand there might be."

One surprisingly popular feature is the glossary. "We get a lot of people calling to say, 'I have this word here, what does it mean?'" Campoli says it's great to be able to type in a word and get the meaning right away.

Because the ComputerSelect Web service is updated daily, simple information such as definitions and complex information such as expert analysis and market research are always current.

Another popular feature is the company profiles. "We had one inquiry from someone interest-



ed in investing in an Internet company and he wanted to find out all he could before deciding," says Campoli.

"Everything is right there in the database," says Campoli. "Once you get an article, everything is all linked up, such as a link to the company's homepage. It's like one-stop shopping and the articles go back five years."

The Information Technology Library at OIT has a variety of print and electronic resources, including books, journals and reference materials, audiotapes and videotapes. The library, located in room 1400 of the Computer and Space Sciences Building, also circulates tutorial CD-ROMs and administers a hardware rental program.

To access ComputerSelect Web go to the OIT library home page at www.oit.umd.edu/library, select "ComputerSelect Web" from the drop down menu under "Frequently Asked Questions," and click on "Go."

For more information, call the OIT library at 405-2984.

—DENISE LEE

Presidential Candidates Hot on the Money Trail

When it comes to politics, the higher the office, the more time candidates spend raising the cash necessary to get—and stay—elected.

While campaign finance reform has persisted as one of the hottest topics in both national and state politics, a new study reveals for the first time which types of candidates spend the most time pursuing contributions and how much of their personal campaign schedules candidates devote to such activities.

Titled "Candidates Devote Substantial Time and Effort to Fundraising," the study of some 2,200 candidates of all political parties shows those seeking federal or statewide office were the most likely to put considerable time and effort into fundraising activities.

Fifty-five percent of those who ran in statewide contests, including the U.S. Senate and governorships, devoted more than one-fourth of their personal campaign schedule to raising money. Twenty-three percent of these candidates spent more than half their time fundraising. Similarly, among candidates for the U.S. House, more than 40 percent spent at least a quarter of their time soliciting contributions.

"For many candidates, fundraising has become one of the most significant activities on the campaign trail," says Paul Herrnsen, one of the study's principal investigators and director of the university's Center for American Politics and Citizenship.

According to the study, which is part of the ongoing Campaign Assessment and Candidate Outreach Project, a partnership between the university and *Campaigns & Elections* magazine, roughly 29 percent of all candidates across all political offices devoted more than 25 percent of their time to fundraising.

While candidates for the state legislature, judicial posts and local offices typically spend less time soliciting funds, state legislative races in several large states have become very expensive. Many legislative candidates report they must spend more time raising money in order to wage competitive campaigns. Almost one-third of all state legislative candidates say they devote at least a quarter of their time to fundraising activities.

The study also documents the increasing professionalism of campaign fundraising. A majority of statewide and roughly one-third of U.S. House candidates hire professional consultants or pay political aides to raise money. Only 11 percent of the judicial candidates, 9 percent of the state legislative candidates, and 3 percent of the candidates for county, local or municipal offices have professional fundraising operations.

"The pursuit of money has become a campaign in and of itself," says Herrnsen. "The campaign for cash requires candidates to hire professional fundraising experts and to devote a tremendous amount of their personal time soliciting contributions. Challengers could have better spent this time meeting with voters, and incumbents could have better used their time to perform their official duties."

Ron Faucheux, editor-in-chief of *Campaigns & Elections* magazine, concurs. "This survey confirms the anecdotal tales I hear from the campaign trail," he says. "Candidates are spending more time begging for money—and enjoying it less. Clearly, legal contribution caps without commensurate limits on spending have caused candidates to spend more time on the phone soliciting donations just to keep up with rising costs and competitive pressures."

Democrats and Republicans, incumbents, challengers and open-seat candidates, winners and losers and men and women spent roughly the same amount of effort raising money. Only independent and minor-party candidates devoted fewer resources to fundraising.

The nationwide mail survey of political candidates was conducted in spring 1999 and was funded with a grant from the Pew Charitable Trusts. The survey was based on a representative sample of candidates who ran for a wide array of public offices, including the U.S. Senate, U.S. House of Representatives, governor, secretary of state, state legislator, judgeships, city council and other state and local offices between 1996 and 1998. The results presented in this report include only general election candidates. The full report is available on the Web at:

www.bsos.umd.edu/gvpt/herrnsen/outreach.html.

date line maryland

Your Guide to University Events
August 29- September 10

PRISM to Perform Free Concert

The School of Music opens its 2000-2001 season with the campus debut of the award-winning PRISM brass quintet in Ulrich Recital Hall, Tawes Fine Arts Building on Sept. 1 at 8 p.m.

Grand prize winners of the 1999 University of Georgia Brass Quintet Competition of the Americas, PRISM is a newly appointed resident of the School of Music. The quintet's members include Matthew Bickel, Sam Buccigossi, Steve Hasse, Erik Kofoed and Aaron Moats. Graduates of the Eastman School of Music, the innovative PRISM brass has performed throughout the New York, Chicago, Pittsburgh and Washington, D.C., areas.

For its debut performance at the university, PRISM will perform classical and contemporary works from Lully, Ewald, Mendez, Jan Bach, Ewazen, Debussy, Bernstein, Sarasate and Freund. The recital also features a question and answer session with PRISM members.

Admission and parking are free.



Starting Sept. 5 The Art Gallery presents "Theme & Variation: American Identity in New Deal Era Art," an exhibition featuring painted mural studies that are on loan from the National Museum of American Art and works on paper from The Art Gallery's Martin W. Brown Collection.

The Art Gallery is located in the Art-Sociology Building and is open Monday - Friday 11 a.m. - 4 p.m., Thursday until 8 p.m. and Saturday from 11 - 5 p.m.

For more information, call 405-2763 or visit the Web Site at www.inform.umd.edu/ArtGal.

calendar guide:

Calendar phone numbers listed as 4-xxxx or 5-xxxx stand for the prefix 314- or 405. Events are free and open to the public unless noted by an asterisk (*). Calendar information for *Outlook* is compiled from a combination of inform's master calendar and submissions to the *Outlook* office. To reach the calendar editor, call 405-7615 or e-mail to outlook@accmail.umd.edu.

Summer Programs Bring Potential Terps to Campus

The student population on campus during the summer is not only smaller, it's younger.

That's because the School/University Cooperative Programs enrolls thousands of high-school and middle-school students in arts, recreation and academic classes designed to whet their appetites for higher education.

The SUCP program has been around since 1987, part of the university's land-grant college mission of providing service to the state by establishing links between the university and the schools.

This year, says SUCP coordinator Joan Rosenberg, "we are looking at a whole new population of nontraditional college students, who in prior years would not have even considered college."

Some may not have given college much thought because they are barely in their teens. "We have been able to establish an early intervention program with middle school kids," Rosenberg says. "We have a chance to put this idea in their heads while they are still young, so they are in the appropriate college prep courses that will prepare them for college admission."

It's a practical consideration. "Our workforce has changed," says Rosenberg. "We no longer have factories requiring enormous numbers of workers. Our workforce now requires more technological skill and higher levels of education."

Not all of the summer SUCP classes are just for kids. A flute master class focusing on 19th- and 20th-century flute sonatas is open to adults, for example, and a 4-H camping program designed for families. There also are courses for public-school faculty and administrators. But most of the SUCP offerings are designed for col-

lege-bound young people.

Of particular interest are students who have been historically underserved, such as classes designed for high-school girls considering engi-

"We have a chance to put this idea in their heads while they are still young, so they are in the appropriate college prep courses that will prepare them for college admission."

—Joan Rosenberg, SUCP coordinator

neering and programs aimed at 9th- to 11th-graders who will be the first in their families to attend college.

Other courses provide immersion in math, physics and life sciences. A course sponsored by the College of Journalism and the *Washington Post* allows high-schoolers to learn to be reporters, photographers and editors. The summer physical and mental health offerings include marriage and family therapy, therapeutic day camp and hearing and speech development for preschoolers.

And sports camps allow the young students to hone their skills in lacrosse, track and field, basketball, volleyball, golf, soccer, field hockey, swimming and football. "The fields are empty and the coaches are available," says Rosenberg, "so summer is the ideal time."

New York Arts Director Named to Performing Arts Center Programming Post

Frederick Noonan, director of classical music programming for the 92nd Street Y in New York City, is the new programming director of the Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center at Maryland. He assumed his new post Aug. 14.

Noonan brings to the center significant experience in program and audience building. Since 1997 he has reinvigorated the music program at the 92nd Street Y by working with renowned artists, restoring debut and commissioning programs, and introducing innovative world and contemporary music series. From 1976-1996 Noonan served as associate programming director for the Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts. There he pioneered such well-known programs as the Great Performer Series and the Mostly Mozart Festival, which he later helped expand to the Kennedy Center.

Noonan is responsible for setting the program direction of the Clarice Smith Center, which is scheduled to open in 2001. "I look forward to creating stimulating programs with strong emotional connections, and making traditional repertoires accessible and interesting to a wide variety of audiences," says Noonan. "The new center represents a chance to create a dynamic environment larger than the sum of its parts."

"I look forward to creating stimulating programs with strong emotional connections, and making traditional repertoires accessible and interesting to a wide variety of audiences,"

—Frederick Noonan

Family Study Shows African American Fathers Protect Their Young

When they were in Head Start, James Shird's two young children saw something no parent ever wants his kids to witness. A neighborhood acquaintance was shot in front of their Southeast Washington home as they watched, perched on the sofa by the front window.

The children attended the man's funeral with their father, and the family of three used the tragedy as a chance to talk about the violence going on right outside their door. Several years later, Kevin, now 9, and Cherylynn, 10, still talk to their dad about many issues that concern them. Constant communication is one strategy Shird uses to teach his children how to survive the violent streets.

A two-year University of Maryland study conducted by family studies researcher Bethany Letiecq documents this strategy and other parenting techniques used by single African American fathers to keep their children safe in violent neighborhoods.

James Shird helped Letiecq find fathers and convince them to participate in the study. Six years ago, he became active in his local Head Start program. Surprised that most of Head Start's training was designed for mothers and not the unique parenting styles of fathers, he founded the Significant Male Task Force, a group of men who help raise young children living in dangerous low-income neighborhoods. Knowing research into this subject was important, Shird also assisted Letiecq in developing the questions and methods of the study.

Using trained male African American interviewers, Letiecq documented the parenting techniques of 18 fathers living in high-crime neighborhoods of Washington, D.C., and Prince George's County, and then questioned a larger sample of 61 fathers and father figures based upon those results. She found several common strategies, and analyzed individual, familial and community level predictors of those strategies. For example, fathers who indicated a certain level of emotional depression were more likely to teach their kids home and neighborhood safety, while permissive fathers were less likely to do so.

Many of those techniques resembled what past research has attributed to mothers, such as teaching personal safety and maintaining close supervision.

Some appeared unique to fathers, such as teaching children about real-life violence and its consequences, teaching how to fight back, teaching alternatives to violence, reducing exposure to media violence, confronting troublemakers in the community, arming the family for protection and moving away from bad residential areas.

No evaluations were made about the effectiveness of such tactics, but the study does discuss possible ramifications, such as a child improperly gaining access to a gun his father purchased to protect the family.

"I think the first thing to consider is that if you live in a safe neighborhood, your parenting practices could be very different than if you lived in a violent neighborhood," Letiecq says. "So what we may consider 'bad parenting' in one context could be necessary in another context."

Shird agrees. "People don't know about the black father and role he really plays in his children's or family's lives," he says. "Most people in the media and people who make reports just report on what they think it should be like."

According to U.S. Census figures, 62 percent of African American families are single-parent and 92 percent of these families are female-headed.

"When you focus on [those] statistics, you possibly miss that even if these families are headed by mothers, there is still typically a male figure involved in that family system," Letiecq says. "My study was about those men, whether they are a biological father, a stepfather, a grandfather or an uncle, to talk about how they are involved in a young child's life and how they protect that child."

Shird uses strategies similar to the fathers surveyed. His children are both orange belts in taekwondo karate. For him the training is more about discipline and self-control than fighting. Many of the fathers in the study say teaching kids to fight back is the only way they will gain the respect of people on the streets.

Raised in the country by his aunt and uncle, Shird says he didn't have the same worries his children face today. He remembers working on farms in the summertime, and fights that were limited to two men's bare hands.

"Violence was different," he says. "You would have a good fistfight. You'd wrestle or throw each other down

or whatever—a lot of times without a scratch. And whoever wins, wins, and it's over. Never did you see a kid that age even walking around with a knife. As far as guns, daddy kept a gun hanging over the door, and we never thought, when we got mad, about going and getting that gun."

But gun violence is the norm today, and Shird knows that whatever physical training his children have will not save them from a bullet. For that, he says he has to rely on their understanding of conflict management and their abilities to avoid taking matters into their own hands.

Shird says he never witnessed the level of violence his kids have seen when he was young. Besides witnessing a shooting outside their home, Kevin and

Cherylynn lost their brother to gun violence. For them, it has become a way of life.

It's gotten so bad, Shird says, he sometimes calls certain neighborhoods "little Vietnam." He says people should be aware of this world and think about how they would survive in such an environment. "It's different when you live in 'little Vietnam' than it is living in an area where something happens every five or ten years," he says, "where people can sleep with the door open and walk up and down the street at any time day or night."

Letiecq's study is part of a larger study conducted by researchers Sally Koblinsky and Suzanne Randolph, "The Role of Family and School in

Promoting Positive Developmental Outcomes for African American Preschool Children in Violent Neighborhoods," sponsored by the U.S. Department of Education.

The study is not intended as a manual on proper child rearing, but a comprehensive portrait that is part of a growing body of research into what parenting techniques African American fathers are using. Letiecq says obtaining the data was difficult, but necessary in understanding these men.

"To reach out to the community, you have to be more creative and spend a little more time getting to know these guys and how you can best support them," she says. "But if we took the time to do that, I think we would see more fathers getting involved and learning positive parenting skills to protect their kids."

—DAVID ABRAMS

"People don't know about the black father and role he really plays in his children's or family's lives. Most people in the media and people who make reports just report on what they think it should be like."

— James Shird

Law Firm to Offer Mentoring Services to Companies in Business Incubator

The international law firm of Fried, Frank, Harris, Shriver & Jacobson has entered into a partnership with the university's Engineering Research Center to provide lectures and mentoring services to the technology-based start up businesses housed in the center's business incubator.

Fried, Frank, with about 500 attorneys in offices in New York, Washington, D.C., Los Angeles, London and Paris, will provide lectures on a variety of topics to leaders of the information, biotechnology, electronics and other start-up companies currently being nurtured in the university's Technology Advancement Program (TAP), one of the oldest and most successful incubators in the Washington-Baltimore region. Attorneys from Fried, Frank's D.C. office also will mentor individual TAP companies, providing to each company up to 10 free hours of consultation and advice valued

at \$10,000.

"Our firm is excited and enthusiastic about joining the University of Maryland in its efforts to foster entrepreneurship and the creation of successful new businesses," says Richard Steinwurtzel, a Fried, Frank corporate partner whose practice is concentrated in the areas of corporate finance and mergers and acquisitions.

David Barbe, interim director of the Engineering Research Center and associate dean for research, says the new partnership will be a major new asset for companies in the incubator. "TAP companies have always benefitted from the on-campus setting and the research, technical and business resources of the university, including the engineering and business schools and the computer science department all of which are ranked in the top 25 nationally," Barbe says. "Recently we have been adding to the

expertise and services available to TAP companies, by developing working relationships with strong service providers such as Price Waterhouse Coopers, AXA and American Express.

"We are enormously pleased that start ups in the incubator will now also be able to benefit from the tremendous expertise of Fried, Frank, Harris, Shriver & Jacobson."

The TAP incubator for technology-based, start-up companies was established in 1984, admitting its first company in 1985. Since then, 35 companies have "graduated." They now populate the region, generating new high-tech jobs. Currently there are 10 companies in residence in the modern on-campus facility that TAP opened in October 1998. This facility features high-speed fiber-optic Internet connections throughout the building, specialized wet-lab space for biotech companies, computer labs, gener-

al-purpose labs and offices. Total investment attracted to date by companies in TAP is over \$271 million.

Digene is a good example of the success TAP graduates are beginning to achieve. The world leader in human papillomavirus (HPV) testing, Digene offers the only FDA-approved test of its kind. HPV DNA-type information is useful for determining a woman's risk of developing cervical cancer, the most common cancer and the leading cause of death from cancer among women in developing countries. On April 27, 1999, Digene announced that Empire Blue Cross/Blue Shield of New York was providing coverage for Digene's HPV test. Digene has 140 employees in its Montgomery County, Md., R&D laboratories and corporate office.



NOTABLE



Bonnie Braun, assistant professor of family studies, has been named the 2000 Chalkley-Fenn Public Policy Visiting Scholar by the American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences. She will complete her 10-week tenure during winter 2001.

During her tenure as the public policy scholar, Braun hopes to provide testimony or position papers on Capitol Hill and to influence both collegiate faculty members and students to become more active in the public policy arena.

Last June Distinguished University Professor **Guillermo Calvo** (economics department and Center for International Economics) gave testimony on the issue of dollarization before the U.S. House of Representatives Subcommittee on Domestic and Monetary Policy, Committee on Banking and Financial Services. The bill in question (S.2101) was proposed last Feb. 24 by Sen. Connie Mack. The bill's title, "International Monetary Stability Act of 2000," is designed to promote international monetary stability and to share seigniorage with officially dollarized countries.

David Harrington, associate director at the Academy of Leadership and mayor of Bladensburg, recently was elected first vice president of the Maryland Municipal League. Harrington is the first African American to serve in a senior leadership role in the league. Harrington and other officers and board members were sworn in by Gov. Parris Glendening June 13.

Harrington, 45, is an experienced executive in the fields of organizational management, motivational leadership,

community and public leadership and leadership training. Before coming to the Academy in 1997, Harrington was director of educational services at the Close Up Foundation. In addition, he was chair of the African American Educators Special Interest Group of the National Council for the Social Studies and a faculty member at Harvard's summer institute for Writing, Reading and Civic Education.

Harrington has a bachelor's degree in political science from Howard University and has completed master's work in the same field at Miami University of Ohio.

Sociology student **Wan He** received the American Sociological Association's Dissertation Award honoring the best Ph.D. Dissertation for the calendar year from among those submitted by advisers and mentors in the discipline. It is awarded for the best dissertation defended during calendar year 1999.

James Hendler, computer science professor in the Institute for Advanced Computer Systems, has been selected as the recipient of the 2000 AAAI (American Association for Artificial Intelligence) Effective Expository Writing Award for his March 11, 1999 *Nature* article "Is There an Intelligent Agent in Your Future?" The award, which includes a \$2,500 prize, was established this year to honor the author(s) of a high quality, effective piece of writing, accessible to the general public or to a broad AI audience, written within the last two years.

The American Council of Learned Societies recently presented **S. Robert**

Record 181 Terps Named to ACC Honor Roll

A record 181 University of Maryland student-athletes have been named to the 1999-2000 Atlantic Coast Conference Honor Roll, announced last month by ACC Commissioner John Swofford. It is the second straight year the Terps have established a new standard for number of student-athletes who have earned inclusion in the select list, which recognizes outstanding performance in the classroom.



In order to be included on the ACC Honor Roll, now in its 44th year, student-athletes must maintain a 3.0 grade point average for the entire academic year. Last year, 162 Terrapin student-athletes were recognized, surpassing the previous record of 153 set during the 1995-96 academic year. In the last six years, Maryland has seen a 51 percent increase in its number of ACC honorees.

Included on the list are seven student-athletes who earned either Academic All-America or Academic All-District honors from the College Sports Information Directors of America during the past nine months: Jen Adams (women's lacrosse), Brian Kopka (football), Marcus LaChapelle (men's lacrosse), Christian Lewis (men's soccer), Carla Tagliente (field hockey), Keith Unikel (men's golf) and Jason Ward (men's swimming).

Ramsey, professor of East Asian linguistics, one of 65 ACLS Fellowships for postdoctoral research in the humanities and humanities-related social sciences. His research concerns an English-language history of the Korean language.

The **Department of Resident Life** recently was honored with the Association of College and University Housing Officers-International (ACUHO-I) Presidential Service Award for consistent, outstanding service to ACUHO-I over the past decades. In presenting the award, the president of ACUHO-I praised the countless staff members who hosted the ACUHO-I Conference in 1988, and applauded the devotion of the staff of Resident Life, the three previous program committee chairs, the members of the executive and foundation boards, the chairs and contributors of numerous association committees, and the department as a whole for hosting the upcoming National Housing Training Institute Conference.

The award will be displayed in the Annapolis Hall Conference room.

George Ritzer, professor of sociology, recently received the American Sociological Association's Distinguished Contributions to Teaching Award, given annually to honor outstanding contributions to the undergraduate or graduate teaching and learning of sociology which improve the quality of teaching.

Roland Rust now holds the David Bruce Smith Chair in marketing at the

Smith School of Business. He is the 2000 winner of the American Marketing Association's Gil Churchill Award for career contributions to marketing research, and has also received career achievement awards from the American Statistical Association, the American Academy of Advertising, and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

He formerly served on the faculty of Vanderbilt University and the University of Texas at Austin. He received his master's and doctoral degrees from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

John Splaine, associate professor of education policy, planning and administration, was the recipient of Kappa Delta Pi's Outstanding Education Award for the 1999-2000 academic year. The award was established to recognize an outstanding faculty member who has made a tremendous difference in the lives and the quality of experience for students in the College of Education.

As part of the award, Splaine was presented with a plaque and a Kappa Delta Pi commemorative pin. In addition, the hundreds of books collected during Kappa Delta Pi's Spring book drive were donated to a local area school in his name.

Edna Szymanski, dean of the College of Education, has been awarded the 1999 James F. Garrett Award for a distinguished career in rehabilitation research.

Clutter to Lead Distributed Learning Programs

The Office of Continuing and Extended Education (OCEE) recently announced the promotion of Bill Clutter as associate dean and director of summer sessions, special programs and distributed learning.

Clutter will provide leadership in the university's expanded commitment to develop and deliver distributed learning programs. He will work with faculty to expand participation in and the use of Web-based learning programs. He also is responsible for developing and maintaining partnerships with offices and units on campus that provide Web-related academic and administrative student support services. And, he will establish partnerships between the university and area industry, government agencies and various nonprofits that can benefit from distance learning programs.



Bill Clutter

"Our enhanced commitment to offer premier academic programs and professional development via distance education helps to readily serve the educational and economic needs of the entire state and beyond," says Judith Broida, dean of the Office of Continuing and Extended Education. "I fully expect Bill Clutter to lead this outreach initiative with the same resulting success that he has achieved in other areas."

Clutter most recently was assistant dean and director of summer sessions and special programs at the university, and will continue to oversee the popular program that offers more than 1,700 undergraduate and graduate courses. He spearheaded the universitywide effort to develop SPOC, the Single Point of Contact, one-stop-shop that allows visiting and summer students to be admitted, register for classes, pay their bills and get personal responses to their inquiries by the simple click of a mouse.

Indoor Fungus — Harmful or Harmless?

Chemistry's Bruce Jarvis Presents Data at the National American Chemical Society Meeting

Those greenish black patches growing on your bathroom walls may look innocent, but they could be guilty of potential health risks according to chemistry professor Bruce Jarvis, who presented data on the toxicology of molds last week during the 220th national meeting of the American Chemical Society.

According to Jarvis, certain kinds of fungi give off toxic (mycotoxins) spores that can be inhaled and cause flu-like symptoms. Mycotoxins are readily absorbed by the intestinal lining, airways and skin. His research focuses on the *Stachybotrys chartarum* fungus, an uncommon mold considered to be one of the more serious threats to people living and working in water-damaged buildings. He presented data on the variety of potent toxins and immunosuppressant agents produced by *Stachybotrys chartarum*, as well as other classes of toxigenic fungi.

Stachybotrys chartarum has been linked to cases of infant pulmonary hemosiderosis (bleeding in the lungs),

including a series of cases since 1994, where 12 infants have died. All 12 were living in substandard, water damaged inner city housing in Cleveland, Ohio. Cellulose materials such as paper, sheetrock, cardboard, ceiling tiles and wood products are suitable sources for fungal growth if they become moist or water damaged due to water leaks, excessive humidity or flooding.

become moist or water damaged due to water leaks, excessive humidity or flooding.

"There's no question that living in a damp environment in the presences of molds may cause general health problems."

— Bruce Jarvis, chemistry professor

"There's no question that living in a damp environment in the presence of molds may cause general health problems. Although *Stachybotrys* is not a common fungus found in damp buildings, any visible signs of mold growth

should warrant attention because it indicates a water intrusion problem," says Jarvis.

Even when the molds are removed, unless the source of water is taken care of, the molds will reappear, he says.

According to Jarvis, *Stachybotrys* is not as common in flooded homes as other fungi such as *Aspergillus* and *Cladosporium*. However, all of these fungi take weeks or months to grow, which means the presence of indoor molds

reflect long standing water problems. Fungal growth problems can also occur in new buildings and homes that were poorly constructed.

He says there are several treatment options for indoor fungal growth, but

measuring how much mold a person is breathing in remains a challenge. Unlike using certain proteins or markers to measure the exposure to allergens, Jarvis says it's more difficult to measure an individual's exposure to the toxicogenic molds.

He adds there tends to be an overreaction to the presence of molds. While there have been cases that require extensive professional treatment in removing parts of the wall and floorboards, small amounts of fungal growth can be treated by simply wiping the area with diluted bleach water.

"We're inhaling all kinds of particulate matter everyday, but we have powerful mechanisms in our lungs to protect us," says Jarvis.

Although *Stachybotrys* is not a widespread indoor environment problem in the United States, Jarvis is working with scientists in Denmark where there is a national effort to investigate the risks *Stachybotrys* and other fungi pose to infant health.

University Ranks High for Baccalaureate Degrees Awarded to Minorities

continued from page 1

less than 18 percent of the degree-recipient population but 28 percent of the nation's general population. That gap is in part a hangover from the days when minority students were barred from enrolling at major universities, including the University of Maryland.

"This was a segregated school, and in many instances that legacy has been slow to die," Hampton says. "There are people in Prince George's County and Montgomery County, the city of Baltimore, who still won't send their children here."

The *Black Issues in Education* report, he says, should strengthen Maryland's reputation as a school that encourages diversity not just for its own sake, but for the sake of success.

While African Americans seeking advanced degrees are increasingly turning to historically black colleges and universities, the University of Maryland is among a number of traditionally white universities minority graduate students find appealing.

***Black Issues in Higher Education*, in its annual report on graduate schools published July 6, shows Maryland achieved the following rankings:**

Doctoral Degrees

- Total minority degrees, 22nd
- African American degrees, 21st
- Asian American degrees, 16th
- African American education degrees, 14th
- African American psychology degrees, 12th
- African American degrees from traditionally white institutions, 17th

Master's Degrees

- Total minority degrees, 69th
- Asian American degrees, 48th
- Asian American biological sciences/life sciences degrees, 21st
- African American communication degrees, 11th
- Asian American education degrees, 49th
- African American mathematics degrees, 10th
- Asian American social sciences and history, 21st

Biology Research Finds Way to Reverse Evolution of Cave Fish Blindness

An eyeless fish that receives lens transplants from a sighted cousin can develop new eyes in a matter of days, according to research conducted by a pair of university biologists.

The findings, published by biology department chair William Jeffery and postdoctoral researcher Yoshiyuki Yamamoto in the July 28 issue of *Science*, suggest the lens plays an important role in eye development.

"Our current research focuses on identifying basic developmental mechanisms in embryos that can be studied in the laboratory. Though we are not working with human patients, these findings could someday prove useful to our colleagues in clinical practice," says Jeffery.

Jeffery and his students collected thousands of Mexican cavefish from seven different caves in northeastern Mexico. These ghostly, pale fish live only in dark caves, depend on an acute sense of smell to find food and are not a target for predators, which are rarely present in caves.

The fish begin to form eyes as embryos. But the young lenses deteriorate and the corneas, irises, pupils and other optic tissues remain undeveloped. By the time the fish reaches adulthood, the degenerate eye sinks into the orbit and is covered by a flap of skin.

The scientists implanted lenses from sighted surface-dwelling fish of the same species, and within eight days began to see eye development beneath the skin flap. After two months, the cavefish had restored eyes with distinct pupils, corneas and irises. The retinas of the restored eyes showed rod photoreceptor cells, rare in the degenerate cavefish eyes.

When the researchers reversed the experiment—giving cavefish lenses to the surface-dwelling fish—the cavefish lenses degenerated.

"This offers clues about what sort of molecules are involved in eye growth of any vertebrate and it shows the growth of an eye is controlled in a large part by the lens," says Jeffery.

Although Jeffery and Yamamoto can't say whether cave fish regain sight after having a restored eye, this research suggests a simple method in testing factors that control eye growth.

The possibility of other factors contributing to eye loss is currently under investigation in their laboratory. The researchers are hopeful if they can stop cave fish lens from triggering eye regression, they can learn exactly how the mechanism works.

For Your Interest

Clerical Award Nominations

Each year, the President's Commission on Women's Affairs recognizes the outstanding achievements of clerical and secretarial staff at the university. Any member of the campus community may nominate a staff member.

To obtain a nomination form, contact Carol Prier at 405-3869 or e-mail cprier@deans.umd.edu. Send completed nominations to Carol Prier, Clark School of Engineering, 1137 Glenn L. Martin Hall, no later than Friday, Sept. 1.

The award will be presented at the Professional Concepts Exchange Conference Luncheon on Sept. 19.

Consortium Web Site

The Consortium on Race, Gender and Ethnicity is pleased to announce its new Web site: www.inform.umd.edu/CRGE. The Consortium on Race, Gender and Ethnicity is a university-wide initiative promoting research, scholarship and faculty development that examines intersections of race, gender, ethnicity and other dimensions of difference as they shape the construction and representation of identities, behavior and complex social relations.

Playing it Environmentally Safe

The Department of Environmental Safety is offering monthly laboratory safety training for all new laboratory personnel. The orientation is required for all new employees who work in laboratory settings and with hazardous materials. Space is limited.

New research training provides an introduction and overview to a wide variety of safety issues. This training includes chemical hygiene training, hazardous waste generator training and bloodborne pathogen training.

Training is offered in room 3104 Chesapeake Building, from 9:30 to 11 a.m., on the following dates: Sept. 20, Oct. 19, Nov. 15 and Dec. 14.

Contact Jeanette Cartron at 405-3960 or jcartron@accmail.umd.edu to register.

Spanish Speaking Lunch Date

Join fellow speakers of Spanish (regardless of fluency level) for lunch from 12-1 p.m., on the fourth (or last) Wednesday of the month, in the Maryland Food Co-Op dining area (Stamp Student Union). Bring or buy lunch and converse in Spanish. Native speakers as well as speakers of Spanish as a second language are all welcome and encouraged to attend.

For more information call 405-2840 or 405-2841.

Name Change for Technology

The Office of Technology Liaison has been renamed the Office of Technology Commercialization (OTC). Note the new address, phone and fax numbers, and Web site and e-mail address below.

Office of Technology Commercialization
6200 Baltimore Avenue, Suite 300
College Park, Maryland 20742-9520
Phone: (301) 403-2711
Fax: (301) 403-2717

On the Front Lines

First Friday 4 Front-Liners is a free and fun-filled customer service refresher session designed for those who meet and greet students, visitors and customers face-to-face and on the phone. The next session actually takes place on the second Friday, Sept. 8, from 10:30 a.m. to noon in room 1102 Memorial Chapel. Supervisors are encouraged to attend with their front-liners.

To reserve your spot, call Campus Visitor Advocate Nick Kovalakides (314-9893) by Sept. 5. The next session will be Feb. 2.

Web Design and Development

The Web Designer and Developer Program provides skills training and mentored workshops in the design, development and maintenance of Web sites to campus faculty, staff and students who support a university Web presence. Sponsored by the Office of Information Technology, the program is being offered Wednesdays and Thursdays, Oct. 4 & 5, 11 & 12, 18 & 19. There is a fee of \$225 for 36 hours of training. Seating is limited and web-based preregistration is required at www.oit.umd.edu/WebDeveloper.

Questions about course content and registration can be directed to oit-training@umail.umd.edu.

New Employee Orientation

The new employee orientation, an overview of university history, structure, mission, students, policies and services, is held the second Monday of each month, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., and includes lunch. Campus departments and programs you'll learn more about include Campus Recreation Services, the Athletic Department, Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center, Faculty and Staff Assistance Programs, training and development programs, Libraries, Office of Information Technology, Office of Human Relations, Environmental Safety and the Police Department.

Orientation dates for the 2000-2001 academic year are as follows: Sept. 11, Oct. 9, Nov. 13, Dec. 11, Jan. 8, Feb. 12, March 12, April 9, May 14 and June 11. To register for the orientation programs, visit the Office of Personnel's web site at www.personnel.umd.edu.

For more information contact the organizational development and training office at 405-5651.

First Floor Identification

Students, faculty, staff and associates needing University of Maryland photo ID cards can obtain them on the first floor of the Mitchell Building at the Office of the Registrar Customer Service Counter. Hours of operation are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. Call 314-8240 for questions.

Plan Ahead for the Holidays

Beat the rush. Plan your holiday parties now. Call the Inn and Conference Center at University College.

Celebrate your holiday season with special holiday menus. Packages and concessions are available for all holiday groups, if you reserve your event by Sept. 31.

Contact Mark Leisses, catering sales manager at 301-985-7311 or e-mail mleisses@umuc.edu for more information.

OIT Fall Service Hours

Service hours have returned to 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. for the OIT Help Desk (walk-in, dial-in and consult-by-mail services), Information Technology Library and

Laser Print Cost Recovery service, all located in room 1400 Computer and Space Sciences Building.

Questions should be directed to the OIT Help Desk (CSS West Wing, room 1400) at 405-1500 or by electronic mail to helpdesk@umail.umd.edu.

Digital Library Program Launched

Since the Maryland Digital Library program (MDL) became a reality this summer, faculty, staff and students at some 56 participating Maryland public and independent two- and four-year colleges and universities have access to 400 electronic books and 2,945 electronic journals. It's all being done through a Web-based gateway called MdUSA (Maryland University and College Statewide Access to Electronic Databases).

The state-funded MDL initially received \$900,000 to provide Web-based access to 10 core electronic resources selected by a committee of librarians from each segment of higher education.

The MDL electronic resources encompass not only the 400 e-books and 2,945 journals, but reference works such as the new Oxford English Dictionary, the new online version of the McGraw Hill Encyclopedia of Science, and History Universe: Access to African American Studies. The electronic journal content available via MDL includes the Project Muse titles consisting of all the journals issued by the Johns Hopkins University Press in electronic form.

College and university librarians are currently seeking ongoing state support to continue and expand the program beyond the initial start-up year, both in terms of the number of databases and types of services. State support for MDL comes from a combination of funds from the Information Technology Board and funds proposed by Gov. Glendening in his budget for FY2001.

The state's support for the first year of the MDL Program acknowledges funding of this type of initiative in states across the nation has become a reality in the new Internet economy. The program also complements the state's support for SAILOR, a project of Maryland Public Libraries featuring Maryland information and a statewide network providing

access to the Internet for libraries, government agencies, schools and the citizens of Maryland.

Through MDL the state also is putting in place essential information and library services which support e-education any time, anywhere by anyone. This is an extremely important concept for colleges and universities engaged in distance education, for employers whose employees seek additional education, and for employees seeking to pursue academic programs via distance learning at work or at home.

Future developments in the MDL include better user access to material from any of the library collections of MDL participants via a Maryland Premier Academic Catalog (MdPAC), a Web-based union catalog spanning the collections of academic libraries in the state, and access to high-quality Web-based content and information resources.

For further information, contact Betty Day at 405-9072 or go to the Web site: <http://md-diglib.org/>.

